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Attorney Docket No.: 111804

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

In re the Application of

Ryuichi HATA

Group Art Unit: 2818

Application No.: 10/062,414

Examiner: Ly D. PHAM

Filed: February 5, 2002

For: CONTENT ADDRESSABLE MEMORY DEVICE CAPABLE OF BEING USED AS BINARY CAM
DEVICE OR AS TERNARY CAM DEVICE AND STRUCTURE METHOD THEREFOR

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Entitlement to small entity status is hereby asserted.
☐ Small entity status of this application has been established.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Column 1)	(Column 2)	(Column 3)	SMALL ENTITY		OR	OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	RATE	ADD'L FEE		RATE	ADD'L FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	*28 MINUS	**26	x 9	\$		x 18	\$ 36.00
INDEP CLAIMS	*5 MINUS	***3	x 42	\$		x 84	\$ 168.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEP. CLAIM			+ 140	\$		+280	\$
				\$			\$ 204.00

* If the entry in Column 1 is less than the entry in Column 2, write "0" in Column 3.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

*** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.

The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" in this space (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Column 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- ☒ Check No. 141650 in the amount of \$204.00 is attached. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any other fees that may be required to complete this filing, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 15-0461. Two duplicate copies of this sheet are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Daebeler

James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Paul F. Daebeler
Registration No. 35,852

JAO:PFD/dap

Date: April 25, 2003

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Ryuichi HATA

Group Art Unit: 2818

Application No.: 10/062,414

Examiner: Ly D. PHAM

Filed: February 5, 2002

Docket No.: 111804

For: CONTENT ADDRESSABLE MEMORY DEVICE CAPABLE OF BEING USED AS
BINARY CAM DEVICE OR AS TERNARY CAM DEVICE AND STRUCTURE
METHOD THEREFOR

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION
REQUIREMENT**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the April 3, 2003 Restriction Requirement, please amend the above
identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 27 and 28 as follows:

--27. (New) A content addressable memory (CAM) device comprising:

a CAM array including a plurality of CAM words each formed of binary CAM cells;

and

binary/ternary setting means for making a setting of a case in which the binary CAM
cells are used as binary CAM cells or a setting of a case in which each pair of two bits of the
binary CAM cells is used as a ternary cell, wherein in the case in which each pair of two bits
of the binary CAM cells is used as a ternary cell, in each pair of two bits of the binary CAM

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cells, three states of ternary cell, "0," "1," and "X (don't care)" are assigned to four states, "00," "01," "10", and "11," expressed by two-bit data stored in the pair.

28. (New) A content addressable memory (CAM) device configured with binary CAM capable of holding binary data, the CAM device capable of being used either as a binary CAM device with the binary CAM cells or as a ternary CAM device with the binary CAM cells being used as ternary CAM cells capable of holding ternary data using two bits.--

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment and Response to Restriction Requirement, claims 27 and 28 are added. Claim 27 is a linking claim, which includes subject matter from independent claims 1 and 11. Claim 28 is a generic claim. Reconsideration based on the new claims and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant provisionally elects Group I with traverse.

I. The Restriction Requirement is improper.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Action is unclear as to whether a Restriction Requirement or Election of Species is requested. If the Examiner intended the Action to be a Restriction Requirement, Applicant has added a linking claim 27. If the Examiner intended to require Applicant to make an Election of Species, Applicant has added a generic claim 28. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 27 and 28 render the Restriction/Election of Species Requirement moot.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claims 1-28 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire

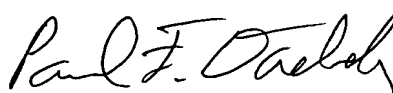
application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits," even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions. It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office. Accordingly, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement or Election of Species is respectfully solicited.

II. Conclusion

For at least these reasons, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement and Election of Species is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is required in order to obtain withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Paul F. Daebeler
Registration No. 35,852

JAO:PFD/dap

Date: April 25, 2003

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